

No. 6354	號四十五百三千六百	日十初月三年寅戊緒光	HONGKONG, FRIDAY, APRIL 12TH, 1878.	五拜禮	號三十月四癸	香港	PRICE \$21 PER MONTH
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LAURENCE A. PLOT

FOR SHANGHAI

FOR SHANGHAI
Steamship:
"KARO,"
Sailing, will be despatched for the above
on FRIDAY, the 13th instant, at Noon.
Freight or Passage, apply to
MEYER & Co. [623
Kong 10th April, 1878.

FOR HOIHOW AND HAIPHONG.
Steamship
"THALES,"
on Pootok, will have immediate despatch
above-Port.
Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LAFLAIR & Co. [623
Kong, 12th April, 1878.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA

“MALACCA”
 sails for the above place shortly after the
 departure of the Steamship “GUALTER” With the
 English Mail.

ADAM LIND,
 Superintendent.

Hongkong, 12th April, 1878.

“STEAM TO SHANGHAI”
 The Steamship “CARGO” at through rates to NAGASAKI
 and Hirogo.

W. P. & O. S. N. Co.’s Steamship

“SUNDAY”
 sails for the above place shortly after the
 departure of the “STATE OF ALABAMA” bringing
 the English Mail.

ADAM LIND,
 Superintendent.

Hongkong, 12th April, 1878.

Spanish Brig
"VILLA DE RIVADAVIA."
Master, will have immediate despatch as
Freight or Passage, apply to
REMEDIOS & Co.
Kiang, 12th April, 1878. 627

NOTICE.
ALL CLAIMS against the American Ship
"NORTH STAR," Captain THOMSON, must
be brought on or before SATURDAY, the
14th April, 1878.
Kiang, 10th April, 1878. 625

THEY, YEEN BUN, and other Seamen
 OF THE STEAMER "TAI CHANG," ARE RE-
 SIBLE for any DEBTS Contracted by
 CAPTAIN, OFFICERS, or CREW, during her
 this Port.

BYAIDIKETHAN SING
 NAWYATATHANGATHOO,
 Agent for the Owners.

at Hongkong, 9th April, 1878. [611

INA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
 LIMITED.

Company's steamer "TAI CHANG" will tem-
 CEASE to run between Canton and this
 from WEDNESDAY NEXT, the 10th

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
K'kong, 8th April, 1878. [604]

PERIOR WHITE CRYSTALS, manu-
factured by the **ORIENTAL SUGAR RE-**
fry, can now be had in Tins of 10 or 14 lbs.,
larger quantities to suit Purchasers, on
application to
Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
K'kong, 1st April, 1878. [555]

TUITION IN GERMAN.

DIES and Gentlemen wishing instruction
in the **GERMAN LANGUAGE** may

gkong, 3rd April, 1878. [Im573]
PIANOFORTE TUNING.
 2. A. HAHN begs to announce to the
 Patrons that he has changed his Resi-
 dence from Praya East to No. 19, HOLLYWOOD
 where Orders may be left, or at Messrs.
 CRAWFORD & Co.
 gkong, 3rd April, 1878. [Im574]
PIANOFORTE TUNING.
 2. J. BUCHANAN, BANDMASTER of
 Her Majesty's 74th Highlanders, begs
 to announce that he has removed to
 No. 1, the Public of Hongkong that he

his stay in the Colony.
 dress to Murray Barracks.
 Kowloon, 14th March, 1878. [Im461
R I E N T A L H O T E L
 WELLINGTON STREET, HONGKONG.
 STOCKHAUSEN AND ROSE,
 PROPRIETORS.
 DINNER AT ONE. DINNER AT SEVEN.
 Spirits, &c., of the Best Quality only.
 English, French, and German Spoken.
 BILLIARD ROOMS—BOWLING ALLEYS.
I N T E R N A T I O N A L H O T E L
 YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.

has an extensive view of the harbour, and
has been entirely REFITTED, offers every
comfort for the Travelling Public.

W. H. HENRIQUES & Co.,
Proprietors.

35,
QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.

ARE NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS.

The Hotel has been repaired and redeccored
thoroughly, and is entirely refurbished.

Rate of Accommodation for Visitors.

Breakfast at ONE O'CLOCK. Dinner at SEVEN.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN BILLIARD
TABLES.
STAG HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD.
J. COOK, PROPRIETOR.
Kong, 1st April, 1878. [560]

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

DENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAM-
SHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of

TO
1 Keg Ink.
4 Cases Machinery.
Ships "COLON" from New York and
Ship "GABRIEL" from San Francisco, are
notified that the same have been landed
at their risk and expense.
G. B. EMORY,
Agent.
Peking, 12th April, 1878. (26629)
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES
NOTION TO CONSIGNEES.

requested to send in their Bills of Lading undervalued for counter-valuation, and immediate delivery. This Cargo has been stored at their risk and expense. Marine Insurance has been effected.

H. du POUET,
Agent.

EX "ARADY".
(owners, Adairson; Bell & Co., 27 cases
clear, from Shanghai.)

EX "DIEMANAH."
c) 210 bags Sharp Stones, from Madras.
d) 58 bags Sharp Stones, from Madras.
e) 50 bags Sharp Stones, from Madras.
f) 60 bags Small 1 case Belah from

...ing, 11th April, 1878.

NOW READY FOR SALE.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

(With which is incorporated "THE CHINA DIRECTORY.")

This Comprehensive Work, now in the SIXTEENTH YEAR of its existence, has been compiled from the Best and Most Reliable Sources, and no pains have been spared to render it COMPLETE in EVERY RESPECT.

It contains—

THE DIRECTORY FOR HONGKONG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CANTON.

THE DIRECTORY FOR WHAMPOA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR MACAO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PAKHOI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HOIHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SHATOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR AMOY.

THE DIRECTORY FOR FORMOSA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR POONCHOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NINGPO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SHANGHAI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CHINKIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR KIUKIANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR WUHU.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HANKOW.

THE DIRECTORY FOR CHERFOU.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TAKU.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TIENTSIN.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NEWCHOWANG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PEKING.

THE DIRECTORY FOR TOKYO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR YOKOHAMA.

THE DIRECTORY FOR NAGASAKI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HIOGO.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HAKODATE.

THE DIRECTORY FOR PHILIPPINES.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SAIGON.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HAIPHONG.

THE DIRECTORY FOR HANOI.

THE DIRECTORY FOR BANGKOK.

THE DIRECTORY FOR SINGAPORE.

With brief descriptions of Hongkong and the Treaty Ports of China, Japan, and the Philippines.

It also includes a mass of useful information in addition to that usually found in works of the kind.

The larger Directory contains the different Treaties and Conventions made by China and Japan with foreign countries, together with various Acts, Ordinances, and Regulations relating to Commerce and Shipping.

It is further embellished with a Chromo-lithograph of a

PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG.

THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF SHANGHAI.

A Chromo-lithograph of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS in use at the PEAK.

Also of the various HOUSE FLAGS (Designed expressly for the Work); and

MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN, &c.

The Directory for 1878 contains several new Features and improvements, and will be found as complete as possible.

The Chronicle and Directory is the only publication of its kind for China and Japan, and it will be found invaluable in all Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

It is published in two forms—Complete at \$5; or, with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily Press Office, where it is published, or to the following Agents—

MACAO.....Messrs. Campbell & Co.

AMOY.....Messrs. Wilson, Nicholls & Co.

FORMOSA.....Messrs. Wilson, Nicholls & Co.

POONCHOW.....Messrs. Wilson, Nicholls & Co.

SHANGHAI.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, & Messrs. Hall & Holts.

HANKOW.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, & Messrs. Hall & Holts.

CHERFOU.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, & Messrs. Hall & Holts.

TIENTSIN.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, & Messrs. Hall & Holts.

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BANGKOK.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, & Messrs. Hall & Holts.

SINGAPORE.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, & Messrs. Hall & Holts.

NEW YORK.....Messrs. S. M. Peckinpole & Co., 37, Park Row.

NOTICE.

THE Underland, having become DEESSE, of the Hongkong Daily Press, and the BUSINESS connected therewith, will continue the same on his own account from this date.

R. CHATFIELD WILCOX.

Daily Press Office, Hongkong, 1st January, 1878.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO.

FAMILY AND DISPENSARY CHEMISTS.

By Appointment to Her Majesty the Queen, and to His Royal Highness the DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS.

PAFUMERIE.

PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS.

DRUGGISTS' SUPPLIERS.

AND

AERATED WATER-MAKERS.

SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REEQUIPPED.

PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.

NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of Orders it is particularly requested that all business communications be addressed to the Firm, A. S. Watson and Co., or

HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those on business to "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, APRIL 12TH, 1878.

One of the most important questions that should immediately engage the attention of the Chinese Government is the process of denudation which has been going on through the length and breadth of the Empire for so many centuries. The Chinese use comparatively little coal in any province, and in the southern provinces nothing but wood and charcoal are consumed. There is a great and continual demand for firewood, and its supply affords a maintenance to thousands of persons. But, unfortunately for the country, while the demand goes on increasing the supply is steadily decreasing. The natives take no thought for the morrow, but remorselessly cut down the trees and never dream of planting others in their places. The stumps become pollards, and these are in turn victims of the axe. Meanwhile another and more stunted growth springs up from the cones which have fallen and taken root. These are also cut down or robbed of their branches and never attain any size. The result is that at the present moment the hillsides of South China are bare and furrowed by the summer torrents, which wash away the surface soil, and leave them arid and unproductive. Here and there a small forest of stunted trees is to be seen, but it is only near the villages that any large trees are to be found. It is absurd to suppose that trees would not grow on these hills because of their altitude and exposure. The China pine will flourish in almost any soil if planted thickly enough to allow of the trees protecting one another from the force of the wind. The effect of this denudation of the trees is most disastrous on the climate, causing it to be hotter in summer and drier in the winter; while streams once perennial become temporary torrents only causing inundation at one time and scarcity of fresh water at another.

Looking at the frightful condition of affairs in North China owing to the increasing denudation of the country, it is time that the Government of Peking paid earnest attention to the disappearance of the forests. It will be a difficult matter to restore the country to its former fertility, but an effort should be made in this direction by planting on an enormous scale and in a scientific manner in order to arrest the denudation and escape the terrible and frequent droughts by which the northern provinces have lately been afflicted. The cost of planting would be double the cost of the land, but it would be in the balance with the welfare of millions of people and the permanent restoration of the country to prosperity. Storms and hurricanes follow long seasons of drought, and complete the ruin that the want of rain inaugurated. The same wasteful and ruinous practice of denudation has been proceeding in India, with the same calamitous result. Ignorance of scientific laws and the want of proper regulations to ensure that for every tree hewn down another was planted has there, as in China, reduced vast tracts of country into treeless wastes. A writer signing himself "Philidius" has contributed a very able article on "Famines and Floods in India" to *the Hamiltonian* for January, in which he shows very clearly the connection between denudation and drought, floods, and cyclones.

"Philidius" does not hesitate to charge the denudation of the Carnatic with the dreadful famines which have desolated that country, and we may safely ascribe to the same cause the famines which have during the last two years raged in the North of China. "Philidius" thus describes the action of forests in arresting the rainfall:—

"As forests are cut down, the springs which flow from them, and consequently the water courses which are fed by those, diminish in number, continuity and volume. Observations in all parts of the world have established the fact that the diminution of flowing water has invariably followed the destruction of forests. Nor has the removal of woods a less certain or less marked effect upon the character of floods both in rivers and in torrents. The surface of the earth (says Mr. Mahe in his book "The Earth as modified by Human Action") can never in its natural condition pour forth such deluges of water as flow from cultivated soil, since vegetable mould not only absorbs nearly twice its own weight of water, but when saturated gives off moisture to the mineral earth below. The bed of leaves, moreover, that has not yet been converted into vegetable mould itself retains a very considerable proportion of rain, while

THE HURRICANE AND FLOODS IN INDIA.

The morning and night of the 11th, the morning of the 12th, and the evening of the 13th, were the most disastrous days of the season.

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